

**Portland – Milwaukie Light Rail Project
Milwaukie Monthly Meeting
Monday, August 15, 2011
Milwaukie Community Meeting Room
3200 SE Harrison
6:00 pm**

Staff in attendance:

City of Milwaukie

Wendy Hemmen, Light Rail Design Coordinator
Kenny Asher, Community Development and Public Works Director
Jeanne Garst, Administrative Supervisor

David Hedges, City Councilor

TriMet

Tuck Wilson
Leah Robbins
Jeb Doran
Claudia Steinberg

Press

None in attendance

Residents in Attendance:

David Ashenbrenner
Ed Zumwalt
Ray Bryan
Cindy Tyler
Ralph Rigdon
Fred Nelligan
Bill Cordy

Introductions and Agenda Overview

Kenny opened the meeting.

- Reviewed agenda items.
- Talked about grant for Tacoma Station

Upcoming Meetings

- DLC – 8/24 & 9/28. There is an application in to the city that will go to DLC and PC for design review. 8/24 will be a work session before the DLC – presented by staff. TM will come to the September meeting for a decision. It will go the PC in October. It will include the jump span over Lake Road and the abutment. It will not include the station area. There will be new pictures at next week's meeting.
- The CAC meeting on Aug 18 will focus on art. Michelle Healy wants to bring the artists into Milwaukie.

- May bring Milwaukie artist Sayad to the next monthly meeting.
Comment – there is a lot of concern about the Park Ave art piece.

Q – Ed asked what is the point of bringing a lot of angry people to the meeting?

A – Kenny said it would be to inform the public about why the art was selected. He said that Michelle wanted the artist to come and talk about the art.

Ray – sees value in having the artist come to the meeting.

Ed – doesn't see any reason to stir up the issue

Cindy – people may be able to influence the artist if he hears the concerns of the community.

Ralph – doesn't care about art.

Dave – in the long run it would be a good idea to let people hear from the artist and letting the people provide input back to him. Need to be sure that people know what the intent is.

Fred – when Sayad presented the concept to the O.G community there were no negative comments. His focus has been on Oak Grove.

David H – had no comment.

Kenny said he thought there was consensus from people, in the room, about wanting to hear from the artist at the next meeting.

David –asked if there was an update on the Milwaukie art. He said he likes the waterfall.

Leah – there is no new information at this time.

Wendy – S&S are looking at the hanging piece.

Kenny – Brian might be able to come to the next meeting as well.

Noise Analysis

Wendy

There have been noise studies done in the last few months. One is on Island Station for the apartments over Rusty's Resale. There will be new windows put in to the second floor of the building to mitigate the train noise. Noise studies were done for sound impacts on the homes near the Kellogg Bridge. A 3-ft clear wall will be put in the bridge to mitigate noise for those homes. TM has talked to the property owners that are affected. There were no impacts to houses to the east in the Kellogg Bridge area. Those were the changes from the FEIS.

Conduct of Construction

Wendy, Leah

Leah reported that Stacy Whitbeck Inc. is contractor for east side of the project. There will be many sub-contractors that will work for Stacy Whitbeck. The selection of the contractor is based on qualifications and price. Quality work is a part of the criteria for the award. They have been under contract since we went into final design. Contracts like this have been utilized on all light rail projects. There is a Code of Conduct that is in place.

How we build through intersections and how traffic flow is maintained is important during construction. There will be a complete Conduct of Construction document for review in the fall in time for open houses. They have been working on the plan since we went into 60% design. There are many phases and elements to the project. Sequencing is important for completion of the project and the order of construction depends on restrictions and moratoriums for activities in each jurisdiction. Will be available for distribution at open houses. Makes communicating with contractor and jurisdictions very clear. The issues goes through one person[Claudia] for continuity.

Q – Any questions about construction – Kenny

? – construction over McLoughlin

Leah – working with COM and CI Cty on that section. Working in Portland at this time.

Q – night work?

Leah – yes. There will be light and noise mitigation and will be planned well in advance.

Q – will property owners know about this.

Leah – yes. When traffic was closed on the Marquarm Bridge – it was planned a year in advance.

Q – Detours?

A – yes. Lots of warning so people can plan in advance.

Ray – TT will have a detour. Will that be addressed in the document.

A – yes. There is a separate contract for that but will be covered in the document.

Ray – asked about the triangle site development and how that will affect the construction of the LR project staging

K – Is going to CC tomorrow.

K – contractor parking has been discussed.

Leah – that is always an issue for projects and they work with the contractors.

Ray – Asked about truck loading zones after construction – will there be delivery areas. Most places have their own parking areas.

Kenny – we will be keeping an eye on that after construction – it is an on-going issue for downtown.

Fire, Life, Safety

Wendy, Claudia

- This committee looks more at construction. It is safety overview committee staffed by response personnel – police, fire TM safety/security staff.

Q – Ed – Had heard that it wouldn't be looked at until 2013. TM has had 25 years to get this right. There are still problems on the lines. Said there was a 52% rise in crime at the TC station area. We need something definite here about crime. What is going to be done?

A – Leah – fair enforcement has been changed in the last month.

K – it isn't here yet. K – we need to turn it to specifics and not generalities. We have some areas we can hold TM's feet to the fire as we already own it. What specific crimes are we talking about?

There were recommendations to the S&S committee. We need to pull those out and see where we are. We have an umbrella agreement for safety. There will be a TM presence at the station at the Milwaukie station.

Leah – TM does not go away after the line is built.

Ed – there is proof that crime went up where a LR line went in.

Cindy – lives by JeldWen Field – there are no problems at that station. Their biggest problem is the noise from the station. There are areas that already had crime problems that were not brought in by LR. It is the nature of the area and LR does not change that. Milwaukie is not 82nd and won't ever be.

Wendy – there are problems already at the transit station that are handled by the Police already.

K – we should be trying to get to a decrease in crimes.

Wendy – there are already problems at the High school and we are working with the HS on how we can influence the design to minimize the amount of crime that could be committed in those areas. Closed caption cameras will help see what is happening. There will be in areas that can't be seen from the platform.

Leah – the cameras are in the budget for this line.

Leah – station access can be challenging. Milwaukie's access has been limited on the south end because of topography.

Ed – what happens if TM runs out of money?

Fred – he represents Oak Grove and making the project fit into the community. There are some safety issues. He recommends going out on lines and talk to the transit officers. He learned about what they do and what they look for and what the challenges are. He feels the safety officers know what they are doing – and has gotten more comfortable with how TM handles safety.

K – appreciates Ed's persistence in keeping it as part of the discussion.

Safety and Security

Wendy

- Committee formed during design. Includes TM, project design staff, representatives from jurisdictions to insure better design.
- Any structure in the public ROW will be reviewed.

Education of the community is a goal and reaching out to the schools and community. Construction in the next few years will be the topic to discuss. After the trains are here – how to behave around the trains is important.

Leah – they are working with the freight rail to keep the lines safe. There are good educational tools.

W – there is a safety train that runs every year to educate the community on safety around trains.

D – asked about the platforms at the Milwaukie Station and if there are going to be one or two platforms when the building is built.

Construction Permit Update

Wendy, Katie

- PGE has come in for permits for the metal poles. The city has asked for more information from PGE.
- There are 7-8 permits in total.
- Working with TM for road design for advanced utility work. Downtown first then Island Station.

Q – is PGE asking to be able to put in galvanized poles?

A – the plans did not show enough information – we have asked for more detail from them.

TGM

Kenny/Katie

- TGM grant. Put in an application about a year ago to do land use planning around the Tacoma station. WE have all the land south of the station and zones for manufacturing. Baseball has been discussed and the transportation issues around that. We got one of three grants in the region. Baseball has become a city priority. It will help us to scope transportation in that area. There issues to make that a better station area. Staff is spending some time on that. The Tacoma will serve a lot of people in Milwaukie and surrounding neighborhoods.

Q – Ed asked about parking permits in downtown and what will happen during construction. We need to get a new parking enforcement person to work on that for downtown.

Any questions:

Q – Ray - with 60% done, what is the next point where we get to comment.

A – About 90% open houses in fall. K – can talk about issues here at these meetings.

Q - any update on the ped bridge under Kellogg Bridge.

A – TM is looking for money to do that. There will need to be connections to the sidewalk which will add to the cost. The city and TM are pursuing another Tiger Grant to help pay for it.

Meeting was